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Subject: Leandras Law

Hi my name is Lenny Rosado, i am the father of 11yr old Leandra Rosado who was killed Oct 11, 2009 by a Drunk Driver in New York, and beacuse of her death and my deepest love for my daughter i fougfh, and pushed , and became a Huge advocate for tough laws peratinig to Anyone drinking and driving with innocent young children in a Vehicle. That law Became know as Leandras Law in the State of New York. On that night i lost my only child, my greatest love, and my best friend, my parents lost their only Grand child, and my Brother lost his only Niece. As a single parent i devoted my life to love, to care, to provide, and to protect my daughter. But on that night my daughters friends mother, knowing she was driving a bunch of young girls to the Bronx to finish of the 2nd night of a girls slumber party, decide to drink several glasses of Coniac, take off speeding before getting on the highway, and proceed to pick up speed once on the high way, then had the nerve to ask my daughter and the other girls, "raise your hand if you think we going to crash". Minutes later she lost control of the car, which hit the metal railing causing the car to flip in the air and when making contact on ground flipping sevrreal time before hitting tree. My daughter was 1 of 3 girls thrown out the vehicle, my daughter was only Child not to survive this Horrible crash. The death of my daughter was something i dont wish on any parent, or Grandparent, her death hurt me deeply but was quickly turned to Anger when i found out she died beacuse the Driver was Intoxicated with alcohol level of 0.14. i quickly found out that she would only be facing a misdemeanor at that time, which to me is a slap on a wrist in causing the death of young innocent child, and injuring 5 other girls. so i took my anger and i went to Albany to advocate for a tougher law on Drunk Driving with young children in a car. Both Assembly and Senate passed the Bill unanimously, and former Governor Patterson signed it. Till this day i miss my daughters voice, her laugh, watching ride her bike, calling me at work just to tell me she loves me. Just months before her death she already was talking about for her Sweet 16 one she will now never celebrate. Since this Law went into effect, in the first year alone there were over 700 arrest, very alarming and disturbing, that Parents, or Adults can be so reckless, and selfish in putting children in harms way. I ask the State of Conneticut to present and pass this Legislation, you may ask why, beacuse its a NO BRAINER. You all should understand. we as Parents, and Grand Parents have a responsibility to protect our young innocent chidren, and that first step is to look at we have accomplished in New York. I ask you to please for the sake of the young innocent chidren in Connetiecut, make a differnce in their lives, we should not have to bury our children , we should be able to protect them to the fullest of Law. Thank You, and God Bless You All. Yours Truly Lenny Rosado.

New York toughens drunken driving law

November 19, 2009 | By Cheryl Robinson, CNN

It is now a felony in New York to drive drunk or under the influence of drugs with a child in the vehicle, and will require first-time driving-while-intoxicated (DWI) offenders to install an ignition interlock device in their vehicles.

With a quick sweep of his hand Wednesday, Gov. David A. Paterson signed the Child Passenger Protection Act, known as Leandra's Law in honor of 11-year-old Leandra Rosado, who was killed in a drunken driving accident in October.

Lenny Rosado, Leandra's father, stood nearby, holding a picture of his daughter while tears streamed down his face.

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Lenny Rosado says he has devoted his life to fighting for tougher DWI laws since the loss of her daughter, Leandra.

Leandra's Law

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Leandra's Law (Child Passenger Protection Act) is a New York State law making it an automatic felony on the first offense to drive drunk with a person under the age of 15 inside the vehicle, and setting the blood alcohol content, or BAC, at 0.08. The bill was unanimously passed by the New York State Assembly and the New York State Senate and then signed into law by Gov. David Paterson on November 18, 2009.^[1]

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Background

Leandra Rosado, an 11 year old girl, was killed on the Henry Hudson Parkway in New York City on October 11, 2009 when her friend's mother, Carmen Huertas, flipped the car they were in while allegedly under the influence of alcohol. Six other children were also injured during the incident.

The law

Pursuant to New York Vehicle Traffic Law Section 1192-2a, any person caught operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated and transporting a child shall be charged with a Class E Felony. In the event that reckless driving and death or serious physical injury is not a factor, an individual will automatically be charged with a class D felony. Defendants convicted under the new law face a prison sentence of up to four years and a fine of \$1000–\$5000. The installation of a mandatory ignition interlock device for a term of at least six months is also an expected provision of sentencing (mandatory for all DWI offenses August 15, 2010). Moreover, licenses are automatically suspended pending prosecution and once proven guilty, the person will be reported to the Statewide Central Register of Child Abuse and Maltreatment and his/her license will be suspended for a minimum of twelve months. First time and repeat offenders are charged with an E level felony, regardless of criminal record.

Recent cases

Thomas Richardson of Rochester, New York was the first person arrested under this new law (People v. Richardson, Monroe County, 2010). He was arrested one day after the law went into effect while driving in the town of Greece. Richardson was accused of driving while intoxicated, with his 10-year old daughter riding on his lap. At trial, Richardson's attorney, Kevin McKain, argued that the police fabricated the charges. Following a three-day jury trial, Richardson was acquitted of the felony charge and a related charge of endangering the welfare of a child.



Senimara Reis 38, arrested for driving drunk with her 4-year-old child in the car in South Windsor.

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Other news in South Windsor

Woman, drunk driving with child charged

Child not injured

Updated: Monday, 03 Jan 2011, 10:37 AM EST
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SOUTH WINDSOR, Conn. (WTNH) - On New Year's Eve a woman was arrested for driving around drunk in South Windsor with her 4-year-old daughter.

Police say they pulled the woman over around 4p.m. on Hillside Drive for a violation. Senimara Reis 38, was given a series of sobriety tests.

After failing the sobriety tests, Reis of 156 Old Farm Road, was charged with operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol, risk of injury to a minor, and failure to drive in the proper lane.

She was released on a \$5,000 bond and is scheduled to appear in court on Jan. 13.